

March 29, 2019

Testimony Regarding SB 874 (opposed)

To Members of the Board of Education Committee: Chairman McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of Education Committee,

I appreciate the BOE Committee allowing me to submit my testimony on SB 874. In particular, I have strong opposition to Sections 17 and 18 of this bill especially since Connecticut has always respected parents constitutional rights to educate their children as they see fit. Section 17 mentioned above would amend the current law requiring parent educators to register, in person, at their local school district yet no families of private, magnet, or parochial schools are required to partake in this arduous task. Why is this section of the bill singling out one particular group of families? This idea is undoubtedly discriminatory to the Homeschool Community and most assuredly unnecessary.

Regarding Section 18, which calls for “curriculum to be made available for grades K-4th”: IF Homeschoolers wanted to use public school curriculum, then Homeschoolers would send our kids to a public school. This is an extreme waste of tax payers’ money, as a curriculum is currently available online, free of charge for K-6th and beyond on Connecticut Homeschool Websites such as www.cthomeschoolnetwork.org. The latter example is just one way to express how Homeschoolers can support ourselves autonomously without government involvement. We do not need or desire to be included in any portion of future legislation. Please keep Homeschooling off the bill; it serves no good purpose.

Thank you again for reading my testimony.

Respectfully,

K. Putetti

New Haven County